

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Madison, Wisconsin 53706

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

November 13, 1964

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
716 Alvarado Row  
Stanford, California

Dear Joshua:

I am very sorry for the long delay in writing, but I have needed the time to consider the many facets of the alternatives--remaining at Wisconsin or moving to Palo Alto.

My decision is to remain at Wisconsin. This has not been an easy choice. The offer to join the Syntex Institute of Molecular Biology is exceedingly attractive and is the only offer in ten years that I have considered seriously.

As you well know, in considering a move, the situation is rarely black or white. In this case it was a matter of determining if the change would be from an excellent situation to one even more excellent. In weighing the relative advantages and disadvantages between the two positions, I concluded that, at present, I can contribute more at Wisconsin. No small part of this contribution is in teaching, as it is clear that if I have any talents at all, one is as a teacher. As for research, my program is in full swing, and even a temporary interruption necessitated by a move would be too costly. There are many personal factors, the most important being my desire to be near my children; for obvious reasons, I need to see them as much as possible now.

The chance to come to Syntex for one year while on leave from Wisconsin was indeed inviting. However, I do not think that an accurate appraisal could be made under such a temporary arrangement.

Finally, for both professional and personal reasons I deeply regret that I will not have the chance of association with you and your group at Stanford.

I wish to thank you heartily for your confidence in me and for the time and energy spent in these negotiations. I will be most happy to give whatever counsel I can to help with your plans to set up and staff the institute.

I am sending a letter to Dr. Djerassi today informing him of my decision.

Warm personal regards,

*Bill*

W. H. Stone  
Professor

*Love to Esther!*

skw

NOT STONE